

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 7, with the following redlined paragraph:

Although specific embodiments of and examples for the fuel cell system and method are described herein for illustrative purposes, various equivalent modifications can be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention, as will be recognized by those skilled in the relevant art. For example, the teachings provided herein can be applied to fuel cell systems including other types of fuel cell stacks or fuel cell assemblies, not necessarily the polymer exchange membrane fuel cell assembly generally described above. Additionally or alternatively, the fuel cell system 10 can interconnect portions of the fuel cell stack 14 with portions of the battery B1, B2. The fuel cell system can employ various other approaches and elements for adjusting reactant partial pressures. The various embodiments described above can be combined to provide further embodiments. Commonly assigned U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/_____, 10/017,470 entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING VOLTAGE FROM A FUEL CELL SYSTEM;" (~~Attorney Docket No. 130109.436~~); and U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/_____, 10/017,461, entitled "FUEL CELL SYSTEM MULTIPLE STAGE VOLTAGE CONTROL METHOD AND APPARATUS;" (~~Attorney Docket No. 130109.446~~), both filed concurrently with this application, are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety. Aspects of the invention can be modified, if necessary, to employ systems, circuits and concepts of the various patents, applications and publications to provide yet further embodiments of the invention.